

24th January 1928]

## Agriculture

*Restrictions on the export of fertilizers to foreign countries.*

\* 1347 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether in view of the large quantities of fertilizers that are being exported to foreign countries, he has in view any scheme for the restriction of such exports ; and

(b) whether the Director of Agriculture has suggested the imposition of duty in the interests of the agricultural industry of the Presidency ?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answers to question Nos. 203 and 724 given on 3rd March 1927 and 31st March 1927 respectively.

*Damages to the groundnut crops of the South Arcot district.*

\* 1348 Q.—Rao Bahadur K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR : With reference to the answer to question No. 1265 answered on 5th November 1927 regarding damages to the groundnut crops of the South Arcot district, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the information called for has been received ; and

(b) what steps the Government propose to take to remedy the evil ?

A.—(a) Yes. The Government are not aware of any serious pest which has done damage to the groundnut crop with the exception of the hairy caterpillar in parts of Cuddalore and Vriddhachalam taluks. To a much less extent the fungus disease known as Rizoctonia has appeared on irrigated groundnuts.

(b) The Agricultural Department has published notes in the Villagers' Calendar for 1927 regarding the method of dealing with the caterpillar. The department has also actually demonstrated the methods in two villages near Panruti in the South Arcot district. Rizoctonia is a much more difficult disease to deal with and research work is now being conducted for finding out possible soil disinfectants and resistant strains.

*Committee to enquire into the working of agricultural middle schools.*

\* 1349 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether a Committee has been appointed to enquire into the working of the agricultural middle schools ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, who the members of the Committee are, their qualifications and the terms of reference to the Committee ;

(c) whether the Committee has been asked to co-opt some local men of the area while considering the working of schools situated in that area ;

(d) whether the Committee has been asked to call for opinions of local people and also to interview some interested persons ; and

(e) whether the report of the Committee will be published for criticism before action is taken on the same by the Government ?

A.—No.

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## Co-operative Societies

### *Allegations against the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras.*

\* 1350 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Assistant Registrar, Madras, is the brother of the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies;

(b) whether it is a fact that the present Assistant Registrar has been successively a clerk, Chief Inspector and Assistant Registrar, all in the City of Madras for a period of over ten years altogether;

(c) whether there is any reason for keeping this person in the same place for such a long period of time;

(d) whether it is a fact that “a Co-operator” sent up a petition to the President and members of the Committee on Co-operation, Madras, alleging that the rottenness of the city co-operative societies was due chiefly to the inefficiency of the present Assistant Registrar; and

(e) how many petitions and mahazars have been received by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies against the present Assistant Registrar, Madras, from January 1925 to 30th September 1927 and whether the allegations made therein were enquired into, or action taken on them?

A.—(a) to (e) The Government have no information but the attention of the Registrar is being drawn to the question and he is being requested to look into the matter and take such action as is necessary.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATHI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know, Sir, if, in North Arcot district, two brothers are employed together, though in different departments? ”

The hon. Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ If the hon. Member says so, I will take it as correct.”

## Registration

### *Reduction of registration fees.*

\* 1351 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have arrived at any decision regarding the reduction of registration fees; and

(b) if so, when the alteration will be proposed?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the notification No. 63, dated 7th December 1927, printed in the Appendix.<sup>a</sup>

### *Reduction of private attendance fees for registration.*

\* 1352 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have arrived at any decision regarding the reduction of private attendance fees for registration; and

(b) if so, when the reduction will be proposed?